

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1-15 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting a messaging service message from a sender in a first system having a first structure for messages to a receiver of a second system having a second structure for the messages, the ~~method being characterized by~~ comprising utilizing a bearer independent protocol in the transmission of the message.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

supporting the bearer independent protocol in a receiver's equipment;

receiving the message having the first structure in a server comprising an application according to the bearer independent protocol;

converting (3-3) the message to have a structure of the bearer independent protocol, and

transmitting the converted message from the server to the receiver's equipment using the bearer independent protocol.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

supporting (7-1, 8-1) the bearer independent protocol in a sender's equipment; and

transmitting the message from the sender's equipment to the receiver's equipment using the bearer independent protocol.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2 or 3,

~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

if the message transmission to the receiver's equipment fails;

converting (13-2) the message to have the second structure; and

transmitting the message to the receiver's equipment in the second structure.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

supporting (2-1) the bearer independent protocol in the sender's equipment;

sending (2-2) the message from the sender's equipment according to the bearer independent protocol;

receiving the message in a server comprising an application according to the bearer independent protocol;

converting (2-3) the received message from the bearer independent protocol structure to the second structure; and

transmitting the converted message from the server to the receiver's equipment.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

receiving the message having the bearer independent protocol structure in a server comprising an application according to the bearer independent protocol;

converting (4-3, 5-3) the message to have the second structure; and

transmitting the converted message from the server to the receiver's equipment.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5 or 6, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

supporting the bearer independent protocol in receiver's equipment; and  
if the message transmission of the converted message fails:  
converting (14-4) the message to have a structure of the bearer independent protocol: and  
transmitting the message from the server to the receiver's equipment according to the bearer independent protocol.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~2, 3, 4, or 7,~~  
~~characterized by 2 or 3, wherein~~ the transmission of the message having a structure of the bearer independent protocol including:

storing (~~7-3, 8-3~~) the content of the message;  
sending (~~7-4, 8-4~~) an address of the content to the receiver's equipment; and  
reading the content by using the address.

9. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication system (~~SA1, SA2~~) comprising at least

a first system (~~1~~) having a first structure for messaging service messages;  
a second system (~~2, 2'~~) having a second structure for the messages; and  
a server (~~12, 22~~) via which a message is transmitted from the first system to the second system;

~~characterized in that~~ the server (~~12, 22~~) is being configured to utilize a bearer independent protocol for transmitting the message.

10. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication system (~~SA1, SA2~~) according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first system (~~2~~) comprises a network

node (SMSC) having functionality related to messaging services within the first system, the network node being configured to recognise the message sent to the second system and forward the message to the server.

11. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication system (SA1, SA2) according to claim 9 or 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first system (1) comprises at least user equipment (TS) which comprises a sender application using the bearer independent protocol for sending messages according to the bearer independent protocol, the user equipment being configured to start the sender application in response to the message targeted to the second system.

12. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication system according to claim 9 or 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the system comprises another server (12, 22) configured to utilize a bearer independent protocol for transmitting the message, one of the servers being a first server (12) via which the message is transmitted from a sender in the first system to the second system and the other one being a second server (22) via which the message is transmitted from the first system towards a receiver in the second system,

the first server (12) is configured, in response to receiving the message having the first structure, to convert the message to have a structure according to the bearer independent protocol, and send the converted message to the second server, and

the second server (22) is configured, in response to receiving the message having a structure according to the bearer independent protocol, to convert the message to have the second structure before forwarding the message to the receiver.

13. (Currently Amended) A server (12, 22) in a telecommunication system comprising a first system having a first structure for messaging service messages and a second system having a second structure for the messages, wherein a message from the first system to the second system is transmitted via the server, ~~characterized in~~ that the server (12, 22) is being configured to utilize a bearer independent protocol for the message.

14. (Currently Amended) A server (12, 22) according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the server is configured, in response to receiving the message having the first structure, to convert the message to have a structure according to the bearer independent protocol before forwarding the message.

15. (Currently Amended) A server (12, 22) according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the server (12, 22) is configured, in response to receiving a message having a structure according to the bearer independent protocol, to convert the message to have the second structure before forwarding the message.